



**Pastor's  
Corner**

Dear Parishioners & Friends,

Unfortunately, due to the recommendations of many in the scientific community and the subsequent orders of our elected officials, we are still prohibited from gathering to celebrate the Eucharist. However, I want you to know that I continue to celebrate a private Mass throughout this time and include the Mass intentions listed in the parish bulletin at these Masses. There are Mass intentions available in our parish calendar, beginning in May. Please email the Parish Office to confirm a Mass intention for a family member or loved one of your own. The church will remain closed, but I encourage everyone to participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and view other good quality spiritual programming on Catholic TV, found on your local cable Channel 268, or on EWTN, Channel 56. You can also view daily Mass on-line at <http://www.catholicstv.org/masses/catholicstv-mass>.

I pray you and your loved ones are all holding up well during these extraordinary and difficult days. I know that in addition to health concerns, many among us are experiencing financial concerns, as well. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all of you who have mailed in donations since public Masses have been suspended. In response to many requests, we have set up an on-line giving feature you may wish to consider using. Gabriel Software, LLC is utilized by several parishes here on Cape Cod and throughout the Fall River Diocese. It is free, simple and secure. Please note the bulletin announcement explaining how to access this service via our parish website.

Your contribution to the weekly parish collection enables us to meet the immediate expenses of St. Joan of Arc Parish. These immediate expenses include the payroll of our beloved parish employees & staff and the operational expenses of the parish facilities and grounds. With your support during these difficult days, the good work of our parish organizations and ministries will continue long after this coronavirus crisis is behind us.

Throughout these 50 days of the Easter Season, may we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus who is the resurrection and the light of the world. May we all carry His light and His love into our homes, our families and wherever our personal path may lead us. May we remember one another in prayer especially those most in need of our prayers at this time.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Bill Rodrigues

**COLLECTION RESULTS—THANK YOU!**

This Week's Donations                    \$11,510.00

*Your generosity to St. Joan of Arc is greatly appreciated.*

**GABRIEL SYSTEM—PLEASE REGISTER**

We are so grateful to all who have donated through the envelope system or through Gabriel, our new on-line giving program. **Whether you choose to continue with the envelopes or donate on-line, we encourage everyone to register with Gabriel so we can build an up-to-date parish census including emails and mobile phone numbers to better handle situations like this going forward.** **Directions:** On the left-hand side of the website home page scroll down beneath the photo of the church until you see the Online Giving Icon. Click the icon which gives you two options: one to register and one to donate. Once we establish a member portal — down the road — registered donors will have the ability to manage and track donations.

*Please keep these deceased loved ones in your prayers.*

**THIS WEEK**

Saturday	5:00	Alma & John Csaposs
Sunday	8:00	Fr. Pierre Milcent
		Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
	10:00	The Smith Family
Monday	8:00	Elizabeth Dunn
Tuesday	8:00	Elizabeth Dunn
Wed	8:00	Elizabeth Dunn
Fri	8:00	Frances Pelrine

**NEXT WEEKEND**

Saturday	5:00	Carl Legg
Sunday	8:00	Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
	10:00	Charlie Wolff

**PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED**

Robert Senefelder, Armand Courchain, Lola Matera

## FIND THE GOOD

Heather Lende, a news reporter and author of the book: *Find the Good: Unexpected Life Lessons from a Small-Town Obituary Writer* writes that collecting and composing the material for obituaries has become a spiritual practice. This practice has helped her to live into the meaning of life and to recognize the Good – the God – who journeys beside each and every person as they walk the road of life:

*“After an elder who has been housebound and incapacitated by a stroke for twenty-five years dies, I find time to sit on the sofa and look through family albums with his widow and admire how handsome he was in his World War II uniform and how happy they both looked on the beach vacation the year before he was stricken. When twelve-year-old twins lose their mother to cancer, I will quote their father praising them and tell how he plans to take them on a family drive across the country to see their grandparents. And perhaps hardest of all, on the snowy winter morning when I meet with the parents and siblings of a young man who drank too much one night and shot himself, I write down how very much he had loved his dog and how he had loved to swim in the lake in front of their summer cabin.*

*“I understand, why you may think that what I do is depressing, but compared to front-page news, most obituaries are down-right inspirational. People lead all kinds of interesting and fulfilling lives, but they all end. My task is investigating the deeds, characteristics, occupations, and commitments – all that he or she made of their ‘one wild and precious life,’ as poet Mary Oliver has called it.”*

Heather Lende’s “beat” as a reporter is really “Emmaus”. She is pointing out the presence of God in hidden lives – a Love that is experienced along the roads we all travel. We all have our Emmaus-like experiences of fear, confusion, dread, worry. We know the disorientation of isolation either alone or with our families. We all suffer the feeling of palpable anxiety at different moments of life, but especially at this moment in this strange new world of COVID-19. But the Gospel story of the Resurrected Christ walking with the disciples along the road to Emmaus reminds us that Christ is making himself known to us, too, through the loving support of family, friends, parish, community, healthcare workers, teachers; and so many more who walk with us in a time of great need. Christ travels with us; he is present in the broken bread of the compassion we offer and receive from our fellow travelers. May we live *this one wild and precious life* with great heartedness!

## SAINT ROCCO—PRAY FOR US

Saint Rocco (AKA "Saint Roch") was born in Montpellier, France in the 14th century to a noble family. Legend has it that his mother had been barren until she prayed to the Virgin Mary. Saint Rocco's birth was made all the more miraculous by a birthmark resembling a red cross on his chest.

His parents died when he was twenty years old, at which point he gave away all his worldly possessions and set out on a pilgrimage to Rome. At the time, Italy was suffering from a plague epidemic. Saint Rocco cared selflessly for the sick, effecting many miraculous cures by making the sign of the cross or laying his hands on them.

In Piacenza, however, he finally fell ill. He was driven out of town and into the forest, where he made a hut for himself out of leaves and branches. Miraculously, a spring arose near his hut to provide him with water and a local dog began bringing him bread to eat. The dog would also lick his wounds clean, eventually healing him.

He returned to Montpellier looking like a wild man with unkempt hair and a long beard. Unrecognized by the townspeople, he was thrown in prison as a spy. He remained there for five years before dying, unwilling to reveal his identity out of humility. The townspeople recognized the birthmark across his chest, and he was venerated as a folk saint almost immediately after his death. But he was not officially canonized until the 17th century. He is traditionally depicted in religious art with a wound on his thigh, a dog (often seen bringing him a loaf of bread), pilgrim's hat and staff. Saint Rocco is venerated in the Roman Catholic Church as the protector against the plague and all contagious diseases. Let us pray for St. Rocco's intercession for protection from the Coronavirus.



### Saint Rocco Prayer for Healing and Protection

During your travels on earth,  
God worked His miraculous healing  
through your intercession.  
Many were cured of the plague  
from your prayers and the sign of the cross.  
We implore you Saint Rocco  
to intercede before the throne of God.  
Send forth a blessing of protection from  
Contagious diseases and the Coronavirus.  
Bless us Heavenly Father with your healing grace.  
We ask this in the name of your Divine Son, Jesus.

Amen

Stained glass window photographed inside Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Newark, NJ

**PLEASE HELP US KEEP  
THESE LISTS UP TO DATE**

**PRAY FOR THE ILL OF THE PARISH**

Martin Coughlin, Loretta Stephens, Harry Marcoux, John Keane, Tris Windle, David Cousins, Lynne Scalia, Alex Podeszwa, Thomas Stone, Nick Bartick, Pam Hedlund, Len Hedlund, Greg Morongell, Nora Gould, Edan Pearl, Anne Caruso, John M. Pollard, Peter Cruckshank, Bill Hannon, Ivy Davis, Maddy Hayes, Clare Stevenson, Joseph Nosari, Vincent Lencvewski, Jeffrey Wolfgang, Joan Ouellette, Bev Sarazin, Tyler Benscoter, Agnes Wolfgang, Fr. Paul Smith, Marilyn Drewes, Ray Castriotta, Julianne Sullivan, Robert Grudzina, Marge LaGrassa, Jim Lewis, Joyce Loechner, Frank Salomone, Chad Larivee, Dick Wentworth, Nuvia Downs, Karen Mary McNulty, Olivia Hart, Alex Haas, Patrick Devine, Gerry Csaposs, Peggy Carson, Addie Priess, Frank McCarthy, Andree Yager, Loretta Reiter, Paul Kasczak, Patty Camarra, James Manley, Betty Babcock, Thomas Murphy, Chris Frazier, Melissa K., Baby Lillian Thoman, Jessica O., Fran McDonagh, Donna Hibbert, Margaret Royce, Beth Nixon, Anne O'Brien, Ben McMahan, Gerry Moynihan, Martha Moynihan, Richard Paskiewicz, Mary Rodrigues, Emily Sparks, Stephen Moreau, Paula Madeiro, Paul Brandon, Rita Folger, Gerri DiCristina, Kathleen Kilmer, Marguerite Forren, Mary Pickard, Deepthi Moola, Steve Novick, Ernie T., Eleanor Symecko, Susanne Albert, Joseph Wignot, Hector Pelletier, Bob Cunnane

**PRAY FOR OUR ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE  
MEN AND WOMEN**

Brandy Nelson, Timothy Horigan, Scott Doucette, Michael Wilson, David Lucas, Sean Lucas, Peter Civita Shayne, Peter Cabral, Gregory DeLuca, Joshua Schmitt, Joseph Long, Brad Howard, Thomas Scudder, Jeffrey Stebbins, Phillip McDonough, David Wilcox, John Amick, David McDonald, Lt. Edward J. Maloney, Andrew Kelley, William James Miller, David Orloski, Stephen Tamaro, Michael L. Hamilton, Thomas Crawford, Aaron Charette, Nicholas McGahey, Edward Prufer, Brandon Stubbs, Christian P. Goodman, Trevor Lafontaine, Connor Lafontaine, Colin Bracken, Michael Bracken

**Coronavirus Prayer**

*Jesus Christ,*

*you traveled through towns and villages curing every  
disease and illness.*

*At your command, the sick were made well.*

*Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of  
the coronavirus,*

*that we may experience your healing love.*

*Heal those who are sick with the virus.*

*May they regain their strength and health through quality  
medical care.*

*Heal us from our fear,*

*which prevents nations from working together and  
neighbors from helping one another.*

*Heal us from our pride,*

*which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that  
knows no borders.*

*Jesus Christ, healer of all,*

*stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.*

*Be with those who have died from the virus.*

*May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.*

*Be with the families of those who are sick or have died.*

*As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and  
despair.*

*May they know your peace.*

*Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical  
professionals who seek to heal and help those affected  
and who put themselves at risk in the process.*

*May they know your protection and peace.*

*Be with the leaders of all nations.*

*Give them the foresight to act with charity and true  
concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to  
serve.*

*Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that  
will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks.*

*May they know your peace, as they work together to  
achieve it on earth.*

*Whether we are home or abroad,*

*surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or  
only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and  
mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give  
us your peace.*

*Jesus Christ, heal us.*

Kerry Weber is an Executive Editor of America Magazine, taken from  
[www.americamagazine.com](http://www.americamagazine.com)